

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

May 29, 2019
10:00 a.m.
1645 'N' Street
Lincoln, NE

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gene Cotter, Sara Hoyle, Greg Janak, Corrine Jarecke, Stephanie Knight, Jill Kuzelka, Rebecca Meinders, Barbara Murphy, Tracy Pella, Richard Pethoud, Darla Winslow

MEMBERS ABSENT: J. Rock Johnson, C.J. Zimmer

OTHERS PRESENT: Jacey Rader, Jennifer Verhein, Administrative Office of the Courts and Probation; Sarah Price, Mental Health Crisis Center (MHCC); Tami DeShon, C.J. Johnson, Patrick Kreifels, Kim Michael, Sandy Morrissey, Amanda Tyerman-Harper, Paul Van De Water and Marti Rabe, Region V Systems

HOUSEKEEPING AND INTRODUCTIONS

Hoyle called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. followed by introductions.

ADDITIONS / CHANGES TO AGENDA

There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

OPEN MEETING ACT INFORMATION

Hoyle pointed out that Open Meeting Act information is posted as required by the Open Meetings Act. Notification of this meeting and information regarding availability of the agenda was provided through a legal notice in the Lincoln Journal Star.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

PRESENTATION – MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS CENTER

- Sarah Price, MHCC, presented information regarding Travis the Translator, a portable device that provides two-way translation services. The device enhances communication making the intake process faster and more efficient, reducing stress for persons who are in an acute mental health crisis at admission. A handout describing how the device works was provided. Price commented that the device was easy to use, contains over 100 languages and dialects, and is being continually updated. More languages are available with internet access. There are no annual fees or costs to use the device after purchase.
- MHCC also purchased a tablet and downloaded Microsoft Translator. The concept is the same although the response time is a little slower for the tablet and fewer languages are available. The download is free.
- The device was paid for by a Special Populations grant funded by Region V Systems with the stipulation that the device be presented at a Network Provider and a BHAC meeting. Following the presentation at the Network Provider meeting, five network providers submitted grant requests to purchase the translators for their agencies. Cost for the unit is currently under \$200.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Cotter made a motion, seconded by Pella, to approve the Consent Agenda (May 1, 2019, BHAC Minutes; FY 18-19 Compliance Management Report; RGB Report) as presented.

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Roll Call: Yes: Cotter, Hoyle, Janak, Jarecke, Knight, Kuzelka, Meinders, Murphy, Pella, Pethoud, Winslow

Absent: Johnson, Zimmer

Motion carried.

ACTION / PRIORITY ITEMS

Election of Officers for FY 19-20: The Nominating Committee's Recommendations for FY 2019-2020 Officers were respectfully submitted. Those recommendations were: Stephanie Knight, Chair; Gene Cotter, Vice Chair. Cotter nominated Winslow, seconded by Pella, for the position of Member at Large. Janak made a motion, seconded by Pella, to accept the recommendations of the nominating committee for Chair and Vice Chair as submitted as well as Winslow's addition to the slate of candidates for Member at Large

Roll Call: Yes: Cotter, Hoyle, Janak, Jarecke, Knight, Kuzelka, Meinders, Murphy, Pella, Pethoud, Winslow

Absent: Johnson, Zimmer

Motion carried.

Contractual Agreements for Region V: Johnson reviewed the following categories of contracts:

- **Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)**
 - **Nebraska System of Care Grant (Amendment 1):** The grant cycle runs from September 30, 2018, through September 29, 2019; this amendment allows for the use of carryover funds in the amount of \$229,707 from the previous fiscal year.
 - **Opioid Contract:** This contract in the amount of \$167,609 is to fund activities that reduce opioid overdose related deaths and abuse of opioids.
 - **Regional Contract with the Division:** This contract in the amount of \$19,428,613 is for services, prevention, rental assistance, transition voucher program, behavioral health, coordination and network management activities.
 - **Nebraska System of Care Grant:** This contract in the amount of \$365,000 runs from September 30, 2019, through September 29, 2020, and will be the last year of grant funding for this project.
 - **Host Homes Grant for Transition Age Youth:** This contract in the amount of \$315,000 is to provide Host Homes for transition age youth. The grant pays a stipend to couples willing to have transition youth live with them in rural counties of Region V.
- **Network Providers:** Region V contracts with 14 providers and / or collaborations for the provision of mental health and substance use disorder services. Johnson reviewed each contract entity and the amount of funding provided for those services and noted that there will be an amendment based on the allocation approved by the Legislature.
- **Emergency Protective Custody (EPC):** Region V enters into EPC contracts with each of the 15 rural counties. In addition, the Region contracts with The Bridge Behavioral Health (BBH) and the Mental Health Crisis Center (MHCC) to provide emergency protective custody services as well as a collaborative, non-monetary contract among Region V, MHCC and BBH to facilitate transition from one facility to another.
- **Projects for Assistance in Transition for Homelessness (PATH):** Contracts include PATH grant dollars (\$65,000) from the State which are passed through to CenterPointe to provide PATH services. The Federal grant begins October 1.
- **Mental Health First Aid (MHFA):** Contracts provide for individual trainers and St. Monica's to provide MHFA trainings as requested.
- **Southeast Nebraska Disaster Volunteer Database:** These contracts with Public Health Solutions, SE District Health Department and Four Corners Health Department are for the purpose to creating and maintaining a volunteer database to be used in the event of a disaster. The database can be filtered to provide the type of specialty volunteers being requested.

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- Miscellaneous: The contract with Families Inspiring Families (FIF) allows Johnson to provide clinical supervision for the FIF navigator project in exchange for FIF serving up to two FYI families. The contract with BHECN is to provide ongoing maintenance for the Nebraska behavioral health recruitment website.
- Cluster-based Planning: These contracts with various individuals and entities are for providing cluster-based planning training to network provider staff and coordination of cluster-based planning implementation. In addition to contracting for training, the Region contracts with Synthesis Inc. for training, training of trainers, data analysis, technology sharing, outcomes data reporting and analysis of the cluster-based planning project.
- Prevention Federal Block Grant Recipients: Johnson presented the Federal Block Grant Recipients reviewing each grantee, the amount of the award, and the purpose for which the funds will be used. Coalitions are requesting funds for activities which are largely evidence-based practices.

Cotter made a motion, seconded by Knight, to recommend the Board approve these contracts as presented with the caveat that if any changes occur as a result of recently passed Legislation, the Region can make those adjustments without coming back to the BHAC for approval.

Roll Call: Yes: Cotter, Hoyle, Janak, Jarecke, Knight, Kuzelka, Meinders, Murphy, Pella, Pethoud, Winslow

Absent: Johnson, Zimmer

Motion carried.

FY 19-20 Prevention Mini-Grant Recommendations: Morrissey presented the 2019 summer cycle for Prevention Mini-Grants reviewing each of the grant applications and the purpose for which funds were being requested. Morrissey explained that dollars approved for the summer cycle must be expended by the end of June which leads to fewer applications for this cycle. A total of \$5,743.15 was requested and \$5,543.15 was recommended by the mini-grant subcommittee. Knight made a motion, seconded by Kuzelka, to recommend the Board approve the FY 19-20 Prevention Mini-Grant Recommendations as recommended by the BHAC.

Roll Call: Yes: Cotter, Hoyle, Janak, Jarecke, Knight, Kuzelka, Meinders, Murphy, Pella, Pethoud, Winslow

Absent: Johnson, Zimmer

Motion carried.

FY 19-20 Special Populations Award Recommendations: Tyerman-Harper presented the Special Populations Award Recommendations. \$10,648.62 was requested and \$7,013.00, the amount available, was approved. Network Providers submitted grant requests to purchase Travis the Translator devices for their agencies, as was mentioned earlier. Winslow made a motion, seconded by Jarecke, to recommend the Board approve the Special Populations Award Recommendations as presented.

Roll Call: Yes: Hoyle, Janak, Jarecke, Knight, Kuzelka, Meinders, Murphy, Pella, Pethoud, Winslow

Abstain: Cotter

Absent: Johnson, Zimmer

Motion carried.

One-Time-Only (OTO) Fund Report: The Region has been managing these funds since 2008 and the funds have been used for a large range of activities. The remaining balance is currently \$418,304. The Region will be requesting to reduce the first line item (Provider Network) by \$168,000 and move those funds to the line item for the Compass data system. Funds providing for a small contract with the Public Policy Center will be moved to Cluster Based Planning. Johnson commented that the funds may be exhausted within the next year or so and the Region is actively seeking ways to replenish the OTO fund. Winslow made a motion, seconded by Pella, to recommend the Board approve the OTO Fund Report as presented.

Roll Call: Yes: Cotter, Hoyle, Janak, Jarecke, Kuzelka, Meinders, Murphy, Pella, Pethoud, Winslow

Absent: Johnson, Knight, Zimmer

Motion carried.

Alternative Compliance:

- Community Support: Tyerman-Harper explained that providers and the Region must request Alternative Compliance for Community Support annually if they want to bill differently than currently allowed by the state service definition. Per the service definition three hours of contact or three contacts are required to bill for a unit of this service. Alternative Compliance allows providers to bill in 15-minute increments for those clients that they are not able to see for a total of three hours or three contacts per month. Providers making this request include: Blue Valley Behavioral Health, CenterPointe, Lutheran Family Services and St. Monica's. Cotter made a motion, seconded by Winslow, to recommend the Board approve the provision of Alternative Compliance for Community Support billing.

Roll Call: Yes: Cotter, Hoyle, Janak, Jarecke, Knight, Kuzelka, Meinders, Murphy, Pella, Pethoud, Winslow

Absent: Johnson, Zimmer

Motion carried.

- Blue Valley Youth Assistance Program (YAP): This request is a result of a corrective action plan submitted following the BVBH audit. Blue Valley has not historically assessed youth in the school-based YAP program for financial eligibility as required, claiming that such an assessment creates a barrier to providing mental health services to youth in the schools. Cotter made a motion, seconded by Janek, to recommend the Board approve the provision of Alternative Compliance for Blue Valley's YAP program. Johnson commented that a number of interventions are being considered that will allow more behavioral health services to be provided in schools.

Roll Call: Yes: Cotter, Hoyle, Janak, Jarecke, Knight, Kuzelka, Meinders, Murphy, Pella, Pethoud, Winslow

Absent: Johnson, Zimmer

Motion carried.

Annual Survey Results: Johnson presented the Annual Surveys and discussed the comments and suggestions noted:

- Network Provider Executive Director: There was discussion regarding prompt and professional feedback. Region staff tries to respond quickly and / or let providers know if a reply will take some time. In those instances, staff will try to be more diligent in sending responses so providers can be sure their concerns are being addressed.
- Behavioral Health Advisory Committee: Several comments were discussed:
 - Attendance by phone: Johnson explained that the Region has researched the idea of teleconferencing these meetings and gotten legal advice. Because the BHAC meetings are public meetings, identified, pre-announced, public sites would have to be available. Also meeting materials would have to be available at the identified sites.
 - Change culture of the Division to promote authentic participation of stakeholders: Johnson recommended that concerns be directed to the Office of Consumer Affairs which operates independently of DHHS. There are also statewide committees that offer opportunities to have a voice in consumer matters.
 - Composition of the Board: Concerns were noted that being elected officials, Board members may not have an interest in behavioral health. Johnson stated that the composition of the Board was specifically mandated

through Legislation and requires an elected official from each county to sit on the Board. Recognizing the concern noted, the requirement to have an advisory committee to provide input to the Board was also mandated at that time.

Knight made a motion, seconded by Meinders, to recommend the Board accept and place on file the two surveys reviewed.

Roll Call: Yes: Cotter, Hoyle, Janak, Jarecke, Knight, Kuzelka, Meinders, Murphy, Pella, Pethoud, Winslow

Absent: Johnson, Zimmer

Motion carried.

Draft FY 2019-2020 Strategic Plan: Johnson presented the draft Strategic Plan commenting that there were very few changes from the previous year. One of the changes was to the Mission Statement where language was changed to reflect the current usage of the term “substance use disorder” rather than “substance abuse.” Johnson reviewed the three organizational goals and the three system goals and discussed the learning organization concept instituted by Region V some years ago. Kuzelka made a motion, seconded by Knight, to recommend the Board approve the Draft FY 2019-2020 Strategic Plan as presented.

Roll Call: Yes: Cotter, Hoyle, Janak, Jarecke, Knight, Kuzelka, Meinders, Murphy, Pella, Pethoud, Winslow

Absent: Johnson, Zimmer

Motion carried.

OTHER UPDATES/INFORMATION

Behavioral Health / Legislative Updates: The Appropriations bill was passed by the Legislature with the additional 2.8 million requested for rate increases. This increase will be followed by an increase in county match requirements. The Legislature did not remove the 1.8 million that was in contention in anticipation of savings from Medicaid expansion.

Emergency System: Johnson reported that two mini-BETAs are scheduled for this current fiscal year: June 12 in Falls City, and June 25 in York.

BHAC Resignations: Due to several recent resignations (Melissa Ripley, Jennifer Jennings and Megan Hinrichs) recruiting for BHAC membership will begin soon. The Region welcomes suggestions for possible members and is particularly interested in applicants from rural areas.

Systems of Care: The Region received approval to use carry-over dollars from the previous fiscal year in the current fiscal year. The carry over dollars will be used to provide a therapist to serve schools in ESU areas 4 and 6.

NETWORK CQI: Complaints, Appeals and Critical Incidents (CACI) FY 19 Q1-Q3: Kreifels briefly presented data regarding CACI for the first three quarters of the fiscal year. The report includes a number of observations and provider-reported quality improvement action steps.

BHAC Attendance Report: The report is provided for informational purposes. No current BHAC members are at risk of falling below the by-laws requirement of attending fifty percent of the meetings.

FY 18-19 Capacity Utilization Summaries (CAP): Provided for informational purposes.

Draft FY 2019-2020 Schedule of Meetings: Provided for informational purposes.

Draft FY 2019-2020 Site Visit Schedule: Provided for informational purposes.

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Training: Provided for informational purposes.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Johnson explained that the Governing Board has determined to begin audiotaping their meetings. Bylaws will be revised to reflect this decision. The recommendation is to keep the videotapes for seven years.
- Tyerman-Harper asked for volunteers to serve on the bylaws subcommittee. The bylaws were last reviewed / revised in 2014. Knight and Pella agreed to serve. The revised bylaws will be a motion item at the August meeting.

LEVEL OF CARE MEETING UPDATES / DATES

- June 17, 2019, Level of Care – 1:30 p.m.

IMPORTANT DATES

- June 10 – 10:30 a.m. RGB Meeting
- June 17 – 9:00 a.m. Network Provider Meeting
- August 28 – 10:00 a.m. BHAC Meeting

ADJOURN

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.